6. (Once amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an interpolation part interpolates the hair data piece at the predetermined position with use of a hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

7. (Once amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the interpolation part interpolates the hair data piece based on group information contained in the hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

8. (Once amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the mapping part includes a coordinate conversion part for converting the hair data piece expressed by a first coordinate system into data of a second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

9. (Once amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the coordinate conversion part converts the hair data piece expressed by the first coordinate system into data of a local coordinate system having an origin on a surface of the head part, and thereafter converts the data into data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

10. (Once amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein when the hair data piece expressed by the first coordinate system is converted into the data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed, the coordinate conversion part executes at least one of a coordinate axis rotation and origin shift, based on a random number.

11. (Once amended) An image processing method for synthesizing a hair image with a three-dimensional shape image of a head part, to generate a hair-style-matched image, the method comprising the steps of:

storing a hair-style data piece constructed by a plurality of hair data pieces arranged on a two-dimensional array;

reading out the hair-style data piece;

mapping the hair data piece corresponding to a hair contained in the read out hair-style data piece at a predetermined position on the three-dimensional shape image of the head part; and

generating the hair-style-matched image based on the mapping result.

15. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 11, wherein during the step of storing, the hair-style data piece is constructed by a plurality of hair data pieces arranged on a two-dimensional array corresponding to a projected image obtained by projecting a three-dimensional hair style expressed by a columnar coordinate system, on a two-dimensional coordinate system, and is stored.

16. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of interpolating the hair data piece at the predetermined position with use of a hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

17. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 16, wherein during the step of interpolating, the hair data piece is interpolated based on group information contained in the hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

18. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 11, wherein the step of mapping includes a coordinate conversion step of converting the hair data piece expressed by a first coordinate system into data of a second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

19. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 18, wherein the coordinate conversion step includes converting the hair data piece expressed by the first coordinate system into data of a local coordinate system having an origin on a surface of the head part, and thereafter, converting the data into data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

20. (Once amended) The image processing method according to claim 18, wherein the step of converting the hair data piece expressed by the first coordinate system into the data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed includes executing at least one of coordinate axis rotation and origin shift based on a random number, in processing in the coordinate conversion step.

21. (Once amended) A recording medium which records a computer-readable program for image processing of synthesizing a hair image with a three-dimensional shape image of a head part, to generate a hair-style-matched image, the program comprising:

a storage part for of storing a hair-style data piece constructed by a plurality of hair data pieces arranged on a two-dimensional array;

a read out part for of reading out the hair-style data piece stored by processing in the storage part;

5 a mapping part for of mapping the hair data piece corresponding to a hair contained in the hair-style data piece read out by the read out part, at a predetermined position on the three-dimensional shape image of the head part; and

a generation part for of generating the hair-style-matched image, based on a mapping result obtained by the mapping part.

10 25. (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 21, wherein, during processing in the storage part, the hair-style data piece constructed with a plurality of data pieces arranged on a two-dimensional array corresponding to a projected image obtained by projecting a three-dimensional hair style expressed by a columnar coordinate system, on a two-dimensional coordinate system is stored.

15 26. (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 21, wherein the program further comprises an interpolation part for of interpolating the hair data piece at the predetermined position with use of a hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

27. (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 26,
20 wherein, during processing in the interpolation part, the hair data piece is interpolated based on group information contained in the hair data piece close to the predetermined position.

28. (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 21, wherein, processing in the mapping part includes a coordinate conversion step of
25 converting the hair data piece expressed by a first coordinate system into data of a second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

29. (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 28, wherein, during processing in the coordinate conversion part, the hair data piece
30 expressed by the first coordinate system is converted into data of a local coordinate system having an origin on a surface of the head part, and thereafter, the data is

converted into data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed.

30.   (Once amended) The recording medium according to claim 28, wherein, when the hair data piece expressed by the first coordinate system is converted into the data of the second coordinate system by which the three-dimensional shape image of the head part is expressed, at least one of coordinate axis rotation and origin shift is executed, based on a random number, during processing in the coordinate conversion part.